

WESTERN ZONE MINUTES
Hyatt Regency Riverfront in Jacksonville, FL
September 15, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. by Robert Broyles, Senior Zone Director. All Western Zone LSCs were represented. Elected and appointed officers present: Robert Broyles, Senior Zone Director; Brandon Drawz, Junior Zone Director; Jon Hayashida, Swimming Championship Coordinator; Marilyn Loitz, Secretary/Treasurer; Erin Fuss, Athlete Representative; Eugene Mielke, Disability Swimming Coordinator.

Introductions during the meeting: USA-S President Bruce Stratton; USA-S Past President Ron Van Pool; USA-S Vice Presidents Mary Jo Swalley (Administration), Jeff Gudman (Program Development), Dave Berkoff (Technical); Past Western Zone Directors Mike Saltzstein, John Kinney, Vicki Marsh; Julie O'Neill of US Paralympics; staff members Lindsay Mintenko, National Team Managing Director; Pat Hogan, Club Development Managing Director; Bill Krumm, Western Zone Sport Development Consultant; Frank Busch, National Team Director. Frank gave an inspirational talk about his first convention experience and how he now views the relationship between volunteers, coaches, swimmers and USA Swimming.

A moment of silence was observed in remembrance of Western Zone members who have passed this year.

M/S/P Motion to approve the minutes from September 16, 2010 as presented.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

Senior Zone Director, Robert Broyles. Robert thanked all Western Zone members for their support over the past two years as he and Brandon have tried to move forward and be more than just a couple of guys who attend a couple of swim meets every year. They have made a start by getting the General Chairs together and have tried to include others in the zone as well. The Senior Championship has taken off and continues to grow with much of the credit going to Clovis. Thanks also to the General Chairs for becoming more involved in the zone. He hopes this two-way street will continue and that Western Zone will become more unified and make our programs the pride of USA Swimming.

Junior Zone Director, Brandon Drawz. Brandon thanked Robert for taking the lead on issues this past year and working to move forward to make it better for all of our athletes. The Senior Championship Meet has taken off and become a really good meet. General Chairs from AZ, CO, HI, IE, MT, OR and SC met during the meet. LEAP was discussed—the process and how to make it better. The concept of a General Chairs meeting midyear was supported and AZ offered to host one the weekend of April 13-15, 2012. As this is the same weekend that USA-S has planned a Zone Workshop in either San Francisco or Portland, Brandon and Robert will try to have it combined with our General Chairs meeting in Arizona.

Swimming Championship Coordinator, Jon Hayashida. The meets held in Clovis this summer went very smoothly. Clovis Swim Club and Ben Britten, Meet Director, did a fantastic job. Senior Championship Meet statistics are: 11 LSCs and 38 clubs represented; 316 swimmers, 1752 individual events, 134 relays, 215 bonus swims. This is significant growth from 2010. Age Group Championship Meet: 16 LSCs represented, 662 swimmers, 3561 individual events, 467 relays, 1629 bonus swims. Twelve new records were set; PC 5, CO 3, and HI, MT, OR, SN 1 each.

Secretary/Treasurer, Marilyn Loitz. A written report was distributed. **M/S/P** Motion to approve the 2011 Treasurer's Report. A current report will be posted on the website -- westernzoneswimming.org

Officials Coordinator, Don Hougardy. 2011 Age Group Championship, August 9--13; 2011; Host, Clovis Swim Club. Ben Britten did an outstanding job as Meet Director with a small, but dedicated, staff of local volunteers to provide another high quality championship meet. Like most meets, technical difficulties found their way into this meet but Ben and crew were able to rise to the challenge and kept the meet running on track. Ken Price (Referee, SN), Linda Eaton (Administrative Referee, CO) and Sue Lorimer (Team Lead Chief Judge, CO), as the assigned team all deserve special recognition for a job well done and for providing an atmosphere of "low key" professionalism that the Western Zone has come to expect. Thank you to all of the Officials from our zone who contributed to make this year's meet such a success.

2011 Senior Championship, August 3--6; 2011; Host, Clovis Swim Club. The third year for our Senior Championship meet continued to see this meet grow in prominence, with the level of competition advancing again this year. Renee Paterson (Referee, CC, a recent Maxwell Award recipient), John Lorimer (Administrative Referee, CO) and Gary Martin (Team Lead Chief Judge, AK) were the assigned team and under Renee's leadership our senior zone swimmers again had a great meet.

Looking forward to 2012. The Age Group Championship meet is scheduled to be held in Grand Junction, CO. and Dave Coleman (HI) will be the Meet Referee. The Meet Referee for the Senior Championship meet will be Sue Renna (CC).

Other Meets and Conferences. The Meet Referees for the 2011 Summer Sectional Meets were: Gold Section, John Julian and Blue Section, Jacki Allender. Ron Van Pool was Meet Referee for the Blue Section's Spring Sectional Meet. This last June, USA Swimming held its Bi-Annual LSC Officials Chairs Conference in Kansas City, MO. ALL LSC's in the Western Zone were represented. This year's topics and presenters were very informative and we had good participation from our LSC Chairs during the zone break-out sessions. Some key topics discussed during these sessions were: participation at

national level meets, the impact of the current economy on officiating at "travel meets" and how to encourage LSC certified officials to officiate at invitational meets and various forms of encouragement related thereto (i.e. penalties, or rewards, at the club level for providing (or not providing) a pre-determined number officials at a given meet).

Disability Coordinator, Gene Mielke. There is a large and active group of swimmers with disabilities in our zone. Peggy Liang recently won three gold, one silver and one bronze medal at the World Deaf Games. A table of statistics on swimmers in our zone with a disability was distributed. The data was compiled from 2010 registrations. Only 523 swimmers (.7%) indicated that they have some type(s) of disability: blind or visually impaired, 128; deaf or hard of hearing, 105; physical disability, 134; cognitive disability, 181. These figures are low based on swimmers observed at meets whose names are not on the disability list. Our zone Age Group Championship has provision for inclusion of these swimmers, and we need to encourage them to participate. The US Paralympics (USP) is working to improve opportunities for swimmers with disabilities so that they can develop into world class swimmers. They have established the concept of holding regional competition and have tentatively scheduled a meet for December 2011 or January 2012 in the Portland, OR area. USP would support the meet with a number of National Team athletes.

Athlete Representative, Erin Fuss. Work on communication is ongoing and a newsletter is planned. A goal for this coming year is to have a Diversity Clinic in our zone.

REPORT OF CHAMPIONSHIP COMMITTEE

2012 Age Group Championship Meet, Lee Young, Meet Director. The meet will be held August 7-11, 2012 in Grand Junction, CO at the Mesa State College El Pomar Natatorium with Maverick Aquatics hosting. There will be an open water swim on Sunday, August 12 at a nearby lake. Information on hotels and catering can be found on the team website, maverickaquatics.com. Lee can be reached at 970-242-1665 (W), 970-250-7058 (C) or lee.young@lpl.com

2012 Senior Championship Meet. Clovis will host the 2012 meet. Dates will be announced soon. Watch for information on their website, clovisswimclub.org

Bids 2013 Age Group Championship Bid. A bid was submitted by Sierra Nevada Swimming/California Capital Aquatics for the 2013 meet to be held at the Roseville Aquatics Complex in Roseville, CA.

M/S/P Motion to close bids for the 2013 Age Group Championship.

M/S/P Motion to award the 2013 Age Group Championship to Sierra Nevada Swimming/California Capital Aquatics as presented. They will also have first right of refusal for the 2013 Senior Championship.

REPORTS OF NATIONAL COMMITTEES/MEMBERS

Times and Recognition, Rachel Huckeby. The current time standard for the Scholastic All-American swimmers is being updated, and Rachael held a short meeting with those athletes present to get their input.

Age Group Development, Linda Eaton. The IMX games are growing and there are now six regional sites. Currently being worked on is 1) a distance initiative to stimulate swimmers into doing more distance and to help LSCs give swimmers that opportunity; and 2) improved safety in warmups.

Scholastic All-American Subcommittee, Joyce Lanphere. This year approximately 750 men and 1060 women were successful applicants, a 10% increase over last year, and approximately 70% of them had 4.0s. Tabulation is not complete.

Open Water Swimming, John Kinney. A great seminar will be held tomorrow.

Registration Committee, Karen Byers/Jim Patterson. Zone Workshops. USA-S has approved a workshop for each zone for Spring 2012. Ours is tentatively scheduled to be held in conjunction with the WZ General Chairs meeting, April 13-15, 2012, location TBD. The LSC will pay for transportation and USA-S will pay room and board for up to four persons (Times, Registration, Officials and OME).

Athlete Protection Training. Current and past non-athlete members who are already in SWIMS must complete the online training by December 31, 2011 in order to receive their 2012 membership card. A new non-athlete member must register and be entered into SWIMS before taking the training.

Club Pre-employment Screening. All clubs are required to sign the 2012 Club Registration Form agreeing to perform the pre-employment screening required by USA-S. Allow time for information to get into the system.

Disability Swimming, Don Watkins. There is a web analysis on the USA Swimming website. Ideas are needed for future webinars. Work is being done on some open water swimming that is oriented toward swimmers with disabilities.

Senior Development, Sean Smith. Look for qualifying times to continue to get faster. 2011 Winter Nationals. Relays have been cancelled and the format has been changed from SC to LC. 2012 Summer US Open has been changed to all LC

meter qualifying times; this will be the policy moving forward. The qualifying times will be Olympic trial cuts. A/B heats will be as they have traditionally been in the past; C heats will be 18 & U and if there are not enough 18 & U then heats will be filled with 19 and 20 year olds. 2012 Jr. Nationals. There are significant qualifying time changes; bonus swims will continue to be offered.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Age Group Championship Date Task Force, Larry Johnson Chairman. Committee members were Lehla Irwin, Vicki Marsh, Mike Werner and Erin Fuss. The Western Zone LSC's were surveyed re What date for the Age Group Swimming Championship Meet would be best for the LSC, When school started In the LSC and What criteria was used for preferred dates. Based on responses, the current date will be kept.

ELECTIONS

Nominations:	Junior Zone Director (non-athlete, non-coach)	Robert Broyles
	Championship Meet Coordinator	Linda Eaton, Jon Hayashida
	Secretary/Treasurer	Marilyn Loitz

M/S/P Motion that nominations be closed.

Elected:	Junior Zone Director (non-athlete, non-coach)	Robert Broyles
	Championship Meet Coordinator	Jon Hayashida
	Secretary/Treasurer	Marilyn Loitz

M/S/P Motion to destroy the ballots.

NEW BUSINESS

M/S/P Motion to accept a proposal from the zone meet meeting that 15/16 and 17/18 events will be combined in prelimins but separated for finals. (Policies and Procedures, Section IV, 5.8.5.D)

M/S/P Motion to accept a proposal from the zone meet meeting that restrictions be removed from the 18 & U relay events. (Policies and Procedures, Section IV, 5.8.7)

A resolution was passed at the zone meet meeting to look into using OME for the Age Group Championship meet. Susan Huckleby and Jim Patterson will pursue this.

M/S/P Motion to take the 2012 Time Standards back to John Lorimer for revision and redistribution.

M/S/P Motion to accept the 2012 Proposed Budget. (It will be posted on the website.)

M/S/P Motion to approve the following legislative changes to the WZ Bylaws and Policies and Procedures.

By-Laws, Article 106 – Championship Meets.

106.1 Western Zone Age Group Championship Meet: The Western Zone shall conduct an annual age group championship meet.

106.2 Western Zone Senior Championship Meet: The Western Zone shall conduct an annual senior championship meet.

106.23 Sectional Championship Meets: unchanged

Policies and Procedures, Section III, Meetings, Section IV, Age Group Swimming Championship Regulations and Section V, Inclusion of Swimmers with Disabilities in the Western Zone Age Group Championship Meet. Insert the words Age Group in all references to the Western Zone Swimming Championship.

Policies and Procedures, Section VI, Western Zone Senior Swimming Championship (NEW)

1.0 Western Zone Senior Championship Bids. The winner of the Western Zone Age Group Championship bid has the right of first refusal for hosting the Western Zone Senior Championship Meet. If the winner refuses hosting the meet, the Western Zone Board will solicit a host from LSCs and make a decision within sixty (60) days of the Western Zone Annual Meeting.

2.0 The meet shall be conducted each year in August.

2.1 A general meeting shall be held prior to the competition.

2.1.1 One (1) representative from each participating club must attend.

2.1.2 The Meet Referee and the Meet Director(s) shall chair the meeting.

- 3.0 The meet shall be conducted under the rules of USA Swimming.
 - 3.1 The host shall obtain an USA Swimming Sanction for the meet.
 - 3.2 The host shall obtain approval of the meet for National Officials Certification.
- 4.0 Format
 - 4.1 The meet shall be heats and finals for individual events (top twenty-four (24) qualify for finals), timed finals for the 800 and 1500 meter freestyle, and relays.
 - 4.2 The event format shall be approved by the Western Zone Championship Coordinator and Western Zone Directors.
- 5.0 Eligibility: A swimmer entered in the meet must be a member of USA Swimming and a Western Zone LSC.
- 6.0 Time standards will be established by the Western Zone Directors, Western Zone Championship Coordinator, and the Western Zone Time Standards Coordinator.
- 7.0 Scoring will be established by the Western Zone Meet Director, Western Zone Championship Coordinator.
- 8.0 Awards
 - 8.1 Team awards through eighth (8) Place.
 - 8.2 Medals first (1) through eighth (8) place individual event.
 - 8.3 Relay medals first (1) through third (3) place, ribbons fourth (4) through eighth (8) place.
- 9.0 Entries, Entry provisions shall be established by Western Zone Championship Coordinator and the Western Zone Directors.
- 10.0 Entry Fees. All provisions of Western Zone Policies and Procedures Section IV, 5.9 apply.
- 11.0 Competition Schedule:
 - 11.1 A competition time line and warm-up schedule shall be presented at the general meeting before the start of competition.
 - 11.2 Breaks: There shall be a minimum of a two hour break between heats and finals each day.
 - 11.3 Relays shall be swum as the last events of each final's session.
- 12.0 Scratch Procedure: Swimmers are considered checked-in for all events entered unless scratched, except for the 1500 and 800 M freestyle.
 - 12.1 Scratch box: Shall be at the Clerk of Course during the meet.
 - 12.2 Closing: Scratch deadlines and positive check-in deadlines for events will published in the meet announcement packet.
 - 12.3 Scratch Procedure: The scratch procedure and no show rule for the meet shall be the National Championship procedure and rule as in the current USA Swimming Rules and Regulations (207.12.6).
- 13.0 Reimbursement: The following individuals will be reimbursed for attendance at the Western Zone Senior Championships:
 - 13.1 Western Zone Senior Director per Section I, 2.1.3.
 - 13.2 Western Zone Junior Director per Section I, 2.2.3.
 - 13.3 Western Zone Championship Coordinator per Section I, 2.4.3.
 - 13.4 Meet Referee per Section IV, 8.1.6.
 - 13.5 Administrative Referee and Team Lead Chief Judge per Section IV, 6.2.1

(Subsequent sections to be renumbered.)

M/S/P Motion that beginning in 2013 the 15/16 and 17/18 age groups will be removed from the Age Group Championship Meet and moved into the Senior Championship Meet. (**M/S/F** Motion to table failed.) Dave Berkoff will chair a committee to develop the particulars.

Deck-pass. A presentation was made by Jim Fox and Karen Linhart from USA Swimming on the new motivational free digital patch program for swimmers and coaches. See DECK PASS on the USA Swimming website.

M/S/P Motion to adjourn at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marilyn Loitz, Secretary/Treasurer